

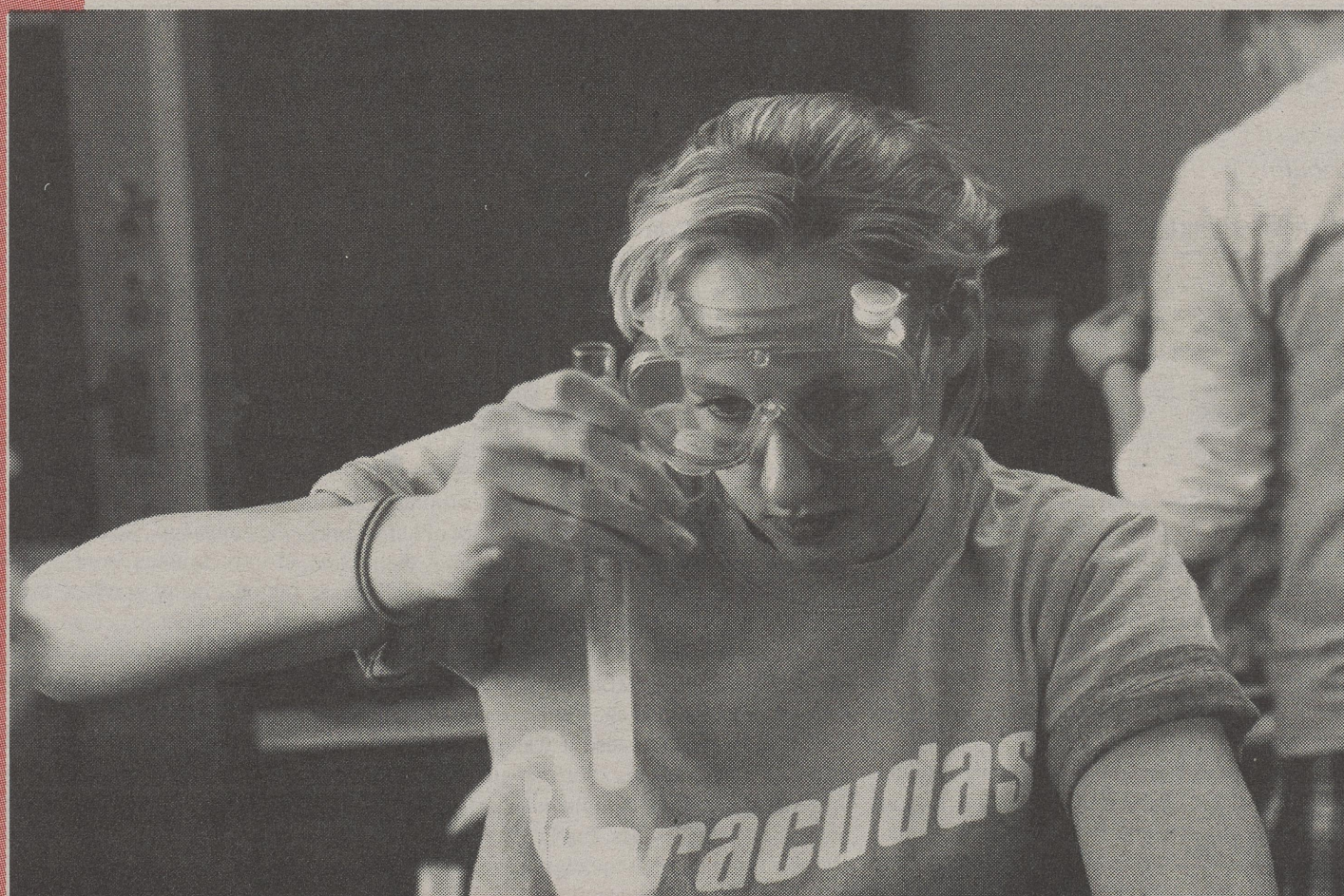
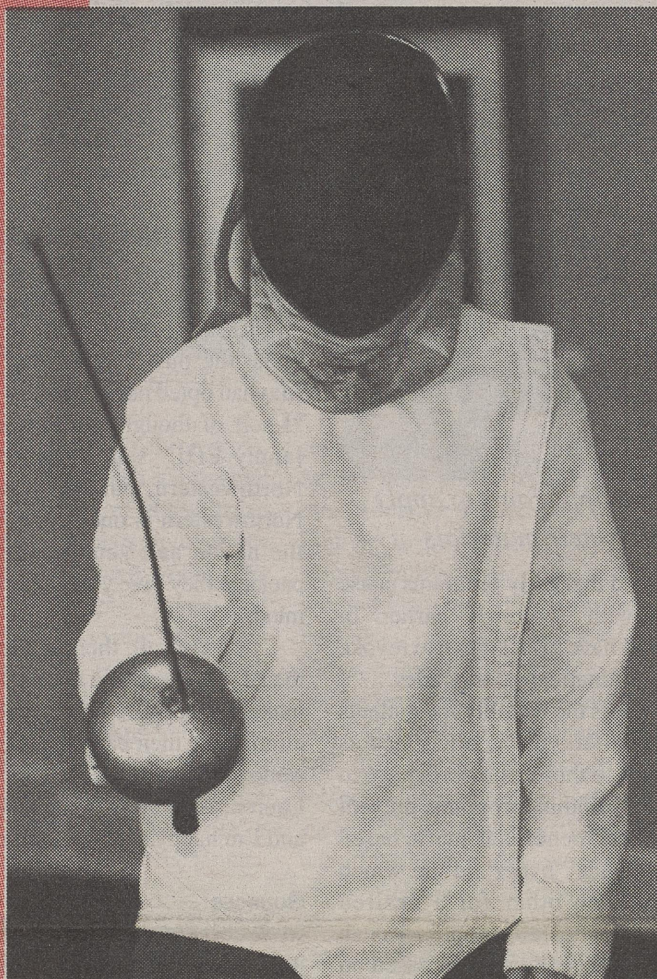
# Logos

The Student Voice of Harpeth Hall

3801 Hobbs Road Nashville, TN 37215  
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Donn Jones

Winterim  
and Beyond...



# Big decisions: Exploring early programs in college admissions

Robin Steele ('04)  
News Editor

On a Saturday in mid-December, senior Lauren Dagley came back to an empty house to find a letter on her pillow that said "yahoo." And then she saw the giant white envelope from Rhodes College with a little clear window that said "Ms. Dagley." "My dad had tried to pry into the envelope to see what my scholarship options were, and then he taped back the part that he had torn," said Lauren. "He says he considered buying a steamer so he could open it and reseal it without my knowledge." She quickly ripped open the letter and started crying. Luckily for Lauren the news was good, and the college admissions process was over.

Lauren had applied to Rhodes College in November as an early decision applicant. Early decision (ED) is the type of early admission program offered by most colleges. Applicants have to commit to one college and are not allowed to apply to any other early programs, and if accepted they are bound to attend. Early action (EA) is another type of early program offered by some colleges. This program has the same fall deadline as early decision and applicants also find out their admissions decisions around mid-December. But unlike early decision, accepted students are not bound to attend and are allowed to apply to other colleges for regular decision.

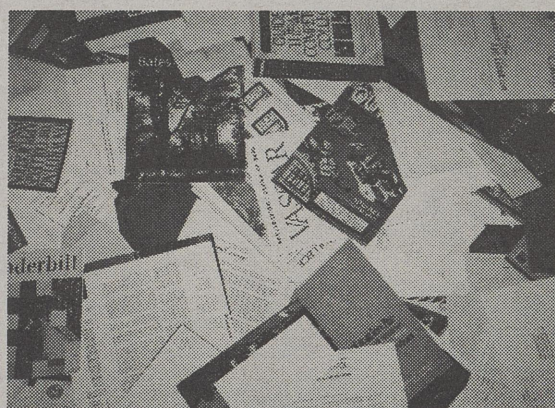
Many view the now-common early programs with mixed feelings. Some students see early decision as a strategic way to improve their chances at competitive colleges. Others are frustrated that the percentages of students in a given college class accepted through an early program are increasing, driving down the regular decision acceptance rates. Many selective colleges currently admit 25 percent to 50 percent of their total students through early admissions.

The one thing that everyone seems to agree on is that an ED applicant must do her homework. "I think early decision is only appropriate for students who have done their research. It's a very personalized choice," said Ginny Maddux, HH Director of College Counseling.

There are many benefits to ED programs. Early admission can help to relieve stress for accepted students. It allows students to start arranging housing accommodations, planning financial aid, and preparing for college. And if accepted to their first choice college, students save hundreds of dollars in application fees

and countless hours of work. "You're assured good housing, you get to pick your dorm and stuff because there are a limited number of people. It really allows you to enjoy your senior year," said Lauren.

For all the advantages of ED, many are quick to find faults. Early programs speed up the college admissions calendar. Applicants are expected to be done with their SATs and ready to apply by about November 1. Under a regular program, applicants send in their applications by January 1, learn their admissions decision by April 1, and commit or withdraw from colleges by May 1. In general, the early programs tend to create more pressure earlier in the process. Some



Colleges encourage applicants to apply early in many of their materials

teachers are also concerned that early programs cause students to come down with "senioritis" earlier. To counter this trend, colleges have been known to revoke acceptances if there is a dramatic drop in grades.

Another downside is the inability for students to compare financial aid offers. ED is often seen as giving an unfair advantage to those who don't have to worry about financial aid. Binding programs prevent students from applying for beneficial merit based scholarships and also exclude "hyper aid" in which colleges try to outbid each other for a desired candidate's financial aid. Technically, applicants can get out of a binding early decision program based on inadequate financial aid, but sometimes there is a penalty.

Some students feel pressure to apply to an early program because they believe that they have a better chance of getting in to competitive schools. At most schools, early acceptance rates are higher than regular, but colleges argue that early applicants tend to be better qualified. Will the early vs. regular conflict be the pivotal difference between an acceptance and something else? Said Maddux, "I think it depends on the school. If you are on the bubble, then it can help, but I don't think it would give anyone a significantly better chance."

In recent years, record numbers of students are applying ED or EA. According to Ms. Maddux, approximately one third of the HH senior class of 2004 applied to an early decision program and one fourth applied to an early action. The vast majority of these students were accepted; for early decision, only a couple of students were not accepted. For early action, there have been some deferrals and a few rejections. But according to Maddux, among the early action results, many schools are seeing more denied than before this year. For HH, returns tend to be good.

And in the end, some applicants manage to resist the push toward early decision. Senior Sarah Mayhan opted not to apply to any kind of early program. "I sort of thought about it a little but decided not to [apply ED]," said Sarah. "I was considering it for Northwestern, but ended up doing regular because Northwestern is one of the most expensive schools in the nation and you are stuck with the financial aid package they give you. I was also afraid of changing my mind."

Overall, there are numerous pros and cons to the ED decision, and it's a choice every applicant has to make for herself. Some schools are even considering eliminating their early programs. But for at least one HH senior, the process is over and ED worked out well. Said Lauren, "I'm done. I know where I'm going to college and I'm happy and I still got money for next year."

## SOURCES:

WWW.COLLEGECONFIDENTIAL.COM/EXPERTS/EDSA.HTM  
WWW.THEATLANTIC.COM/ISSUES/2001/09/FALLOWS.HTM  
WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.COM

## Winterim on campus: New favorites and returning classics

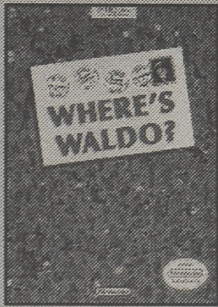
Olivia Burd ('07)  
Contributing Writer



**Songwriting for Guitar** is an annual favorite for serious songwriters and beginners alike. This year's songwriting class spent most of its mornings clustered in the lobby of the Patton Visual Arts Center, being led in song by English teacher Joe Croker. Each student was required to own a guitar. The class taught students how to play the guitar and write thoughtful lyrics to music, although singing in class was not necessarily a requirement. Many enjoyed this class, in spite of the fresh calluses forming on their fingers. Caroline Hallemann ('07) remarked, "It's really fun to learn, even though it hurts." For a final project, each student made a CD of her own songs.

**Don't Read This Book!** was another desirable and new class. This class allowed students to read from a selection of books that have been banned from various schools and libraries within the United States. The students wrote book reports on their books and had class discussions about why certain books were banned. "It's interesting to see which books were banned," said Kristin LeRoy ('07). Many students

were surprised to learn that the seemingly innocent *Where's Waldo* was one of the books on some banned lists. Mrs. Croker taught this course which, through these books, delves into issues of censorship, personal rights, and common values.



**C.S.I. (Crime Scene Investigation)** is the name of both a popular television show and a popular Winterim class. The class, taught by chemistry teacher Melinda Higgins, consisted of daily crime scene labs that taught students how to do fingerprinting and other types of forensics to solve a wide range of criminal cases. Maggie McCain ('07) said, "CSI is a lot of hard work but really interesting." Students got to enjoy their roles as mystery detectives while being slipped some chemistry knowledge from Mrs. Higgins on the side.

**Sewing 101** sounds like an unlikely favorite. Headmistress Ann Teaff admitted that when she first became headmistress, she did not really love the idea of a sewing class because it was reminiscent of the "Home Ec" type of education that girls received in the 70s. She worried that it might hold back girls and label them as housewives. Ms. Teaff changed her mind after a student told her that the class gave her a feeling of independence and satisfaction. The class worked on bright-colored fleeces, purses, and other projects. Maggie McCain said bluntly, "Sewing is challenging. The machines are cool, though." The students went to a sewing school every day. The class was taught by Mrs. Karwedsky and Ms. Margarite.

**Hitchcock 101** is exactly what it sounds like. Students spent their days watching classic thrillers by the great director Alfred Hitchcock and discussing the elements that made the movies great. Staples to this class are "The Birds" and "Vertigo," as well as many others. Kate Sangervasi ('07) said, "It's fun to watch the movies and interesting to talk about them." English



teacher Denise Croker and history teacher Art Echerd lectured on the movies and helped girls understand the movies' deeper meanings. Although this class required frequent reports on the films, many of the students taking this class said that they appreciated and really enjoyed the movies.

**Designing Women** is a course that teaches students about buying and building a house from the ground up. Students have to build models of their dream houses, and while the students often automatically gravitate toward the design element, they also get to see geometry come to life as they labor over blueprints. Students also had to figure out how to finance their new homes through talking to bankers and architects. "I really like Designing Women because I want to be an interior designer when I grow up. This class is hard, but really fun," added Diana Beckner ('07). This class was taught by math teacher Dora Beigl.



**Body Sculpting** was another well-attended class and featured a mixture of yoga, Pilates, weight lifting, and relaxation. The class was taught by dance teacher Leslie Matthews. The strenuous repetition and varied routines were designed to work all the major muscle areas and help the students develop good exercise habits. Rebecca Lee Barden ('07) exclaimed, "It makes you feel good about yourself, accomplished, happy, and upbeat!" The class was hard work and sometimes painful, but always effective if a student worked hard





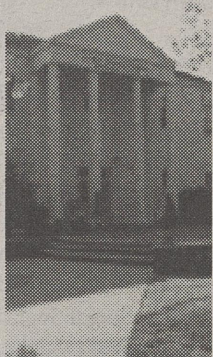
# MORE CONSTRUCTION?

## HH construction facts and rumors

Monisha Chakravarthy ('06)  
Contributing Writer

Beginning with the renovation of the dining hall in 1998, Harpeth Hall students have been returning to campus after summer break every year to find partially completed new buildings and facilities. They often spend the school year listening to the sounds of jackhammers pounding on the next project. Over the last five years, Harpeth Hall has gone through some major changes.

The massive Ann Scott Carell Library, The Robin Ingram Patton Visual Arts Center, and the Dugan Davis Track and Soccer Complex now make Harpeth Hall look more like a small college than a high school. And soon students will have the



Massey Center



Bullard Gym

opportunity to welcome the next giant: the new and improved Daugh W. Smith Middle School, a \$9.4 million project that has been under construction since the beginning of the summer of 2003. Some of the new features include the new Dining Hall, gathering areas for each middle school grade; teacher workshops; conference rooms; and, most importantly, 25 spacious classrooms, fully-equipped science labs included.

The Middle School will be roughly twice the size of the old Daugh W. Middle School and Frist Building combined. At about 56,300 square feet it is larger than any new building built yet. Some students are concerned that, like the library, this project will lag behind and be completed far after its original due date. "I have every reason to believe that we're right on schedule," said Ms. Mulgrew. "The Parent Company has been working night and day, rain or shine, to get this thing done."

There will also be a student café in the Middle School, which will serve healthy snacks exclusively to Upper School students before and during school hours. It will serve Upper and Middle School students after school. Upper School students have been offered the chance to select the name for the café, and the matter has undergone heated

debate. Among the potential names are The Honey Pot, The Den, Cheers, Central Perk, Bear Bucks, Bear Bistro. The most notorious candidate, The Max, is derived from the ever-popular television series of the early 90s, "Saved By the Bell." While The Max is held in high regard, some contest its lack of creativity and the fact

that it may be soon outgrown, while others are wary of another "cheesy" bear-themed name. A vote will be held to settle the matter, although the date and manner in which it is to be carried out are still undetermined.

One rumor that has been swirling around campus is that a new Upper School is next on Harpeth Hall's To-Do List, and that the current underclassmen will be forced into the tiny modulars out on the softball field once the Middle School moves into their spacious new facility. So far these rumors go unconfirmed.

The correct term for the action is "renovating," Ms. Mulgrew insisted, and renovation will take place in the Jack C. Massey Center for Mathematics and Science, thanks to a gift from the Massey Foundation. Work on the outside of the building starts this spring, and the interior should be ready by the first day of school. This includes new mechanical and electrical systems, new floors, new lighting, new ceilings, additional bathrooms where the publications room used to be, a face-lift for the junior lobby, and an elevator. No new square footage will be added to the building, mostly because the number of US students does not require any more space. However, some walls will be moved, giving more space to some classrooms and offices. The Massey wing ends approximately at the stairs leading down to the Louise Bullard Wallace Building. Renovation on the other side of the high school is not expected until the following year.

## Large group attends Model UN

Callie Cohen ('04)  
Contributing Writer

This November, a record 69 girls from Harpeth Hall participated in the YMCA Model United Nations conference, representing twenty different countries, officiating in the International Court of Justice, discussing explosive world conflicts in Security Council, and taking notes in the press corps. Current world issues took center stage at MUN, namely the rebuilding of Iraq and Liberia, disarmament of chemical and nuclear weapons, and funding for relief programs in Africa and Latin America.

Delegates from Harpeth Hall provided informed factual analysis of proposals, often rendering their audiences speechless. They also made sure their voices were heard. In a now infamous stand against General Assembly President Scott Farmer, Harpeth Hall freshman Caroline Tanner forcibly called on the President of the General Assembly to recognize her delegation in pro-con debate. Caroline went on to win the Outstanding Delegate Award for this particular act of assertion and her otherwise exceptional performance.

Not only did YIG keep things lively in General Assembly, they dominated the International Court. Lawyers from Denmark, Botswana, and the United States of America presented oral and written arguments to the court under the watchful eye of Harpeth Hall's own justice, senior Kim Hogg. All three of the countries won their arguments, and Denmark took home the prize for Outstanding Written Counter-Memorial. Botswana ultimately prevailed in an intense legal battle with Namibia, and the MUN Press hailed the United States lawyers for "superior information and presentation, hands down" in their case against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Senior officer Robin Steele, serving on the Security Council, made her views known on the Israel-Palestine conflict. Preparations are currently underway for the YMCA's spring Youth Legislature conference in April, which focuses on Tennessee politics. YIG plans to send a group just as large and just as outstanding to the upcoming event.



## World News:

### Bizarre Newsbites

Robin Steele ('04)  
News Editor

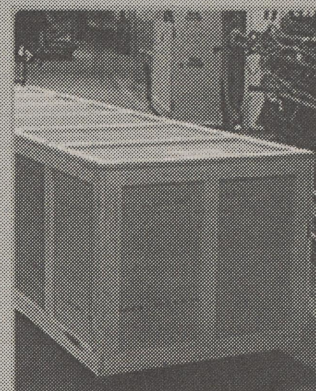


#### COPENHAGEN—Car Thieves Seek Police Help

Two Danish car thieves called police for help when they realized that the angry man whose car they had just stolen was chasing after them in another car. The car's owner witnessed the theft from his home in northern Denmark and decided to retrieve his car. The unlucky thieves, ages 19 and 21, called the police in panic to report themselves and asked to be picked up at a nearby road, reported the local newspaper. ~Reuters

#### DALLAS—Man Faces Punishment for Shipping Himself in Plane

A man was fined \$1,500 and sentenced to 120 days of house arrest after shipping himself across America in an air cargo crate to avoid paying for a plane ticket. Charles McKinley, nicknamed by media as "Charlie in a Box," has also been put on probation for a year after pleading guilty to stowing away on an aircraft. Last September McKinley, 25, filled out an airfreight order and stuffed his 5-foot-8-inch body into a crate that was 42 inches high, 36 inches wide and 15 inches deep. It was sent on a two-day voyage from New York to his parents' home

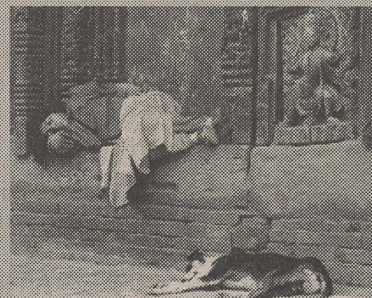


Crate in which McKinley stayed for two days

in Dallas. What McKinley apparently did not consider was the fact that he could have easily died if he had been sealed in a non-pressurized cargo hold. He was discovered by a deliveryman who thought there was a corpse in the crate when he saw eyes staring at him through slats in the box when he dropped it off at McKinley's parents' home. When the crate started to shake and the "corpse" began to move, the deliveryman called the authorities. McKinley's \$1,500 fine is more expensive than some first class fares from New York to Dallas. ~Reuters

#### PHILIPPINES—Couples Asked to Share Baths

In the Philippine capital, couples have been asked to start taking baths together to save water. "Start sharing baths with your partner to conserve water," suggested the environment department to the capital's 12 million residents. The unseasonably dry weather depleted water levels in the city's main reservoirs and officials met to consider rationing and other measures. Environment Secretary Elisea Gozun cautioned that thing may get worse before the May monsoon season begins and said officials were just taking precautions to avoid an early shortage. ~Reuters



Beggar naps beside street dog outside Kathmandu temple

#### KATHMANDU—Nepalese Man Marries Dog for Luck and Then Dies

Phulram Chaudhary, 75, of Nepal, recently married a dog to ensure good luck and then died three days later. His son and other relatives were present when he tied the knot with the dog, following a custom of his Tharu community, which holds that an old man who regrows teeth must take a dog as a bride. "He believed that this

would help him avoid great misfortune later in life. However, he died a few days afterward," the local newspaper reported. ~Associated Foreign Press

#### HOLLAND, Mich.—Man Follows Software in Naming Son with Suffix 2.0

Jon Blake Cusack and his wife Jamie decided that tacking Jr. or II onto a boy's name had been overdone. The new father, a self-described engineering geek, took a software-inspired approach to naming his newborn son. Cusack spent a few months talking his wife into naming their son Jon Blake Cusack 2.0. "I wanted to find something different to name him besides Jon Blake," said Cusack. His wife did not agree to the idea until a week before Version 2.0's birth. She said she had "picked out the theme of the baby's room and done other things. I decided to let Jon have this." After 2.0's birth, the Cusacks sent out an electronic birth announcement. "I wrote in the birth announcement e-mail stuff; like there are a lot of features from version 1.0 with additional features from Jamie," Jon Cusack said. ~Associated Press

#### MINEOLA, N.Y.—State Jail Employee Steals Prisoners' Underwear

An employee at the Nassau County, N.Y., jail might find himself joining the inmates after being charged with stealing over \$13,000 worth of underwear intended for the prisoners. John Cofield, 39, of Uniondale, was arrested on one count of third-degree grand larceny, said Nassau County District Attorney Denis Dillon. Cofield, who worked as a laborer at the jail, is accused of regularly stealing packages of underwear and socks over the last two years. The 2,284 packages of underwear were intended for distribution to both male and female prisoners, Dillon said. "We estimate the total value of the clothing he stole at \$13,704," the prosecutor said. Cofield pleaded not guilty at his arraignment, and could face up to seven years in prison if convicted. ~Associated Press



# Love him or leave him: President George W. Bush

## I am in love with G. Dub

Callie Cohen ('04)  
Contributing Writer

The United States of America exists today because our nation's founders were champions of democracy. Now that global modernization has begun, it seems that there is no better example of a champion of our cause than President George Walker Bush and no one better to explain the power and liberty that comes from a country that values the freedom of its individuals in a democratic setting.

Although his path to the White House was marred by uncertainty, Bush has made no qualms about who he is and what he was elected to do.

He is the embodiment of the American people, the leader that brings the three branches of our

*"Bush has made no qualms about who he is and what he was elected to do."*

government together, and he should be respected for his efforts.

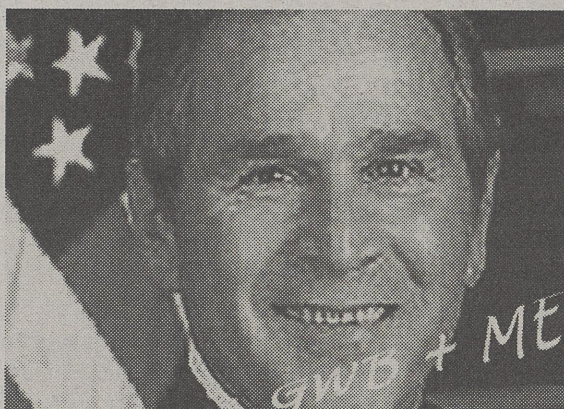
The love/hate relationship that Americans have with Bush stems from the bold and challenging initiatives he has begun in his first term as President. There is absolutely no question that his administration has upgraded and integrated national safety by creating the Office of Homeland Security, which has combined databases and communications information between 122 original compartments.

He has finally passed legislation that demands federal and

state responsibility for the education of American children, to the outrage of many who are apparently content with annual teacher strikes, under-funded school budgets, and seniors in high school that cannot read past a third grade level.

Also, contrary to what democratic presidential hopefuls would have you believe, Bush has put major efforts in re-stabilizing the economy, providing tax cuts that he is currently working to make permanent, as well as resting the fears of skeptical investors to see a \$3 trillion increase in the Stock Market over the last quarter of 2003 alone.

Another plus in the President's column is his capability of leadership. He firmly believes that the responsibilities given to him by the American people should not be wasted on someone who would rather please the media and Hollywood than stick to his morals and values. His personality serves as a channel in which to accomplish the high goals he has set for himself and this great nation.



*Callie argues that President Bush has done what he was elected to do, while Abby cannot wait to see him out of office.*

## Dump Bush's deficit behind

Abby Lipshie ('04)  
Contributing Writer

In a victory speech in 2000, President George W. Bush spoke of his opposition, saying that they had "misunderestimated" him. If President Bush and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger have proven anything, it is that a basic comprehension of the English language is not required to be successful in American politics.

Unfortunately, as President Bush's

first term is winding down, it is clear that his mistakes haven't been limited to the grammatical variety.

Religion is a wonderful thing; it can inspire people to do great things. Nonetheless, it has been decades since we have had a President who has infused Christianity so often into his

speeches. The President is elected to serve the people of our country; people whose beliefs range from Atheism to Zoroastrianism.

We are desperately trying to illustrate to the world community that our War on Terror is not a war on Islam and we are constantly under scrutiny as to whether we support Israel too much and bully the Palestinians. In light of this, wouldn't it be

shrewd of the President to leave out the specifically Christian references in public

*"It is you and I who are going to have to pay off this deficit that has just surpassed one trillion dollars."*

speeches?

It is imperative for us as teenagers to understand that there are issues being ignored by Bush that are going to affect us hugely as we grow up. Under Bush the national deficit has grown at an accelerated speed, starting before any military action in Afghanistan. It is you and I who are going to have to pay off this deficit that has just surpassed \$1 trillion.

Social Security is another issue that Bush hasn't touched. Everyone who works pays social security out of each of her paychecks with the promise of getting money back when she retires. We'll be lucky if there is enough money to provide our parents with social security, but we will most definitely never see any of the money we have paid in taxes all of our lives if serious reforms are not enacted immediately.

Unemployment is up, global opinion of America is down, and people are labeled as unpatriotic for questioning what the President is doing. There's nothing unpatriotic about questioning our President's record as the election rolls around this November. George W. Bush spoke to a reporter in 2003 stating that, "I'm the master of low expectations." Well, at least he's honest.

## Britney Spears: American idol or 'Toxic' influence?

Elizabeth Bradbury ('04)  
Contributing Writer

In 1999, when Britney Spears emerged in the public eye while opening for pop band



*Is Miss Britney Spears a responsible pop idol...?*

\*NSYNC, one could not help but fall in love with her innocent look and bubblegum sound. Britney Spears rose to fame like a tidal wave. One moment she didn't exist, and the next moment she was everywhere: radio, concert appearances, music videos, commercials, billboards, newspapers, talk shows, and much more. The America people began to ask if she would become the next Madonna or disappear like Tiffany.

Fortunately for Britney and her followers, it appears that she is here to stay. Her fourth album, which debuted on November 18, did extremely well on the Billboard charts, if not as well as her first three. Unfortunately for those who dislike Britney, she has become a pop icon.

She has influenced music and fashion in countless ways. However, as she becomes more and more famous, her acts become less and less innocent and her sound becomes more and more racy.

Recently Britney Spears has raised eyebrows by committing several acts. She has appeared in multiple magazines topless. She is constantly being photographed with a cigarette in hand. Spears publicly locked lips with Madonna on the MTV Music Video Awards; this image was later posted on several newspapers and news broadcasts. Spears has had numerous reported hook ups with celebrities such as Colin Farrell, Fred Durst and John Cusack. After swearing she was a virgin, she recently admitted that she did have sex with ex-flame Justin Timberlake. Even more recently she has been reported of having an affair with a 22-year-old African American dancer who is married and with a wife who is eight months pregnant. The two might be just friends, but there have been images posted in magazines of the two kissing on a hotel balcony. Britney recently got hitched to high-school flame Jason Alexander in a Las Vegas chapel - apparently a practical joke gone awry. Next weekend, marry your boyfriend and then pull some strings to get a quick annulment. Don't worry, it's all in good fun.

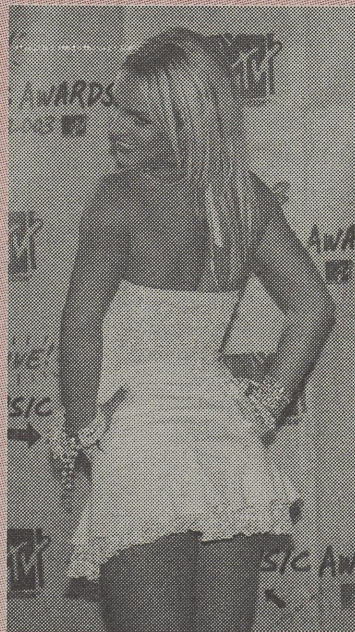
The public, perhaps, should not criticize Britney Spears' private life. That having been said, the topless images on magazine covers are inescapable, especially for children. When walking down aisles in the grocery store, a young child can see the covers of magazines. When searching for Britney Spears on the Internet, numerous immoral pictures can surface. There are so many ways that people can be exposed to these images.

Why does sex sell? Britney Spears' bare images are becoming popular because it gets her more attention and results in more sales. I admit that I am fascinated by her actions. At the same time am sickened by the site of her.

I don't want my seven-year-old sister to look up to Britney Spears. I don't want her to become stuck in the fast lane, never finishing college, and exposing her body to get attention. I want young children like my sister to look up to women who strive to gain an education, help others, and do not commit immoral acts. I cringe when my friends look at a picture of Britney and say they want to look just like her.

Britney is a distorted image of a woman. She is the result of thousands of dollars and a collection of professionals repairing her every flaw.

People have different opinions of whether or not they think Britney is a role model or a bad influence. Once one decides how she wants to live her life, one will decide what her opinion is on the subject.



*...or just not that innocent?*

images found through google.com



# Around Harpeth Hall: Good policies or academic follies?



## Any honor in the Honor Roll?

Sophia Foroudastan ('07)  
Staff Writer

In third grade when the grading period ended, everyone would look for that piece of paper hanging outside the teacher's door. That piece of paper said who made the honor roll. If you made honor roll you would get candy and something from the prize drawer. If your name was on that list, you were even cooler than the kid who made it to the fourth square in four-square for a day.

In high school, honor roll is not a huge deal. You are not the coolest kid on the playground if you are on it. The only people that care if you make are your parents. Your parents no longer boast of your achievements on their back bumpers. Why is honor roll not a big deal? Why do people on honor roll just get their name on a sheet of paper and a letter from Ms. Teaff?

Ms. Mulgrew says that privileges are reserved for seniors. That makes sense because everyone will eventually become a senior and get privileges; though, not everyone can make the honor roll. Some students will try their hardest and never make the honor roll, and there are some students who do not try very hard at all and make the honor roll. A student who wished to remain anonymous stated, "It's entirely unfair. Just because a person is making good grades does not in any way make them more honorable. If we wish to separate and classify our school into groups like this it would just make the separations of groups more prevalent. By doing this, it would only lower people who are trying very hard to make honor roll and who cannot boost their self esteem."

Mrs. Mulgrew and Mrs. Maxwell believe that more recognition, maybe candy on the class board or ice cream, would be rewards for those that make honor roll. Some students suggested maybe intramural points. Other students thought that off-campus lunch was a good idea. Only two of those students were not on honor roll, though, and one of them made it last quarter.

In comparison, for students on the honor roll at MBA, they are excused from assigned study halls. At Harpeth Hall, free periods are a basic perk to attending our school. All students have them unless they are not making the cut academically or are subject to disciplinary action; Then, a student may be placed in study hall. Basically, here study halls can be seen as a punishment rather than a class to be exempt from as a reward.

Students should have some rewards for honor roll like candy or ice cream. They should be recognized during a morning meeting. It would be unfair for students who work their butts off and still can't make honor roll if those who *did* make the list were given off-campus lunches. Honor roll students *should* have their day when they are cooler than the kid that is always the best in four-square.

## Do deficiencies make the grade?

Anna Poss ('05)  
Features Editor

Harpeth Hall is original in many ways. We are different from most schools not only in the fact that we are private and single gender, but we also have many unique traditions and policies, one of the most-hated being deficiencies.

If you have never gone to the mailbox to find HH stationery and realized it was the middle of the eight-week period, I envy you with all of my being. If you have never felt the ensuing feeling that is a combination of fear, dread, and wanting to curl up in a ball and scream, and then have to look at your parents' faces as they read teacher comments, consider yourself one blessed human being.

Deficiencies are those little slips of paper that get sent out mid-quarter with teacher comments if your average in a certain class is a 70 or below. I am ashamed to admit that I have received one on occasion in my six years here. At first, I thought they were a pretty neat concept--something to really help us out. Then, after many rants and "it's ok to cry; let it all out" moments with friends, I began to see the downfalls of the deficiency.

By the time teachers average your scores, turn them in with comments, have them put through the school's computer, and finally sent out, it is already way past the mid-quarter mark. There are about two weeks left and maybe one big test left in that subject to raise your grade. Granted, that is if you have no clue about your average. Sometimes you are shocked to learn that one bad grade could bring you down so far, leaving you little time to correct your mistake.

And then teachers use the comment space to finally express their concerns or thoughts for the first time. Before you can explain something, defend yourself, or even have a clue as to what they're thinking, your parents are turning different shades of red and taking in short, shallow breaths.

Teachers are not stupid; they are actually pretty darn smart. But sometimes their perception or opinion of a situation is completely off the mark. A teacher might say, "I don't think \_\_\_\_\_ is working very hard/trying in this class," when in actuality, you spend more time, sweat, and tears in that class than any other. Honestly, can anyone except you say that to be 100 percent true?

So here's Anna's solution: keep deficiencies. They are really not all that bad. But as Cher says in *Clueless*, "We need to get back in the kitchen." Before deficiencies go out, a student really needs to meet with her teacher from that class. I know teachers are busy, but this would only have to be a five minute meeting to discuss concerns and gain an understanding. These meetings should take place at the middle of the eight weeks, NOT after the mid-quarter mark. Maybe then real progress could be made efficiently without all of the emotional and mental upset.

## Harpeth Hall terminology

Dylan Taylor Smith ('04)  
Contributing Writer  
Stephanie Compton ('04)  
Opinions Editor

No more duds days, bells, or double-wides. Now it is casual days, chimes, and "mods." These are just a few of the familiar terms around the Harpeth Hall campus.

In the clothing department, we have kilts, skirts, skorts, and culottes. We have polos, pullovers, sweaters, sweater vests, sweatshirts, and button-downs.

Even when we are not in uniform we have casual days instead of duds days, for which students are encouraged to dress up, not down. Our guidance counselors are here to help us with our problems. In contrast, public schools have guidance counselors help with college applications. We have college counselors for that!

Instead of bells, we have chimes. "Celestial Awakening" is one of many names given to the new sounds on campus. Is anybody else still a little creeped out by them? Instead of a cafeteria we have a dining hall, and are reprimanded if we call it otherwise.

The process of building the new middle school has enriched our vocabulary with such terms as the "modular village" and the "Harpeth Acre Woods." Although leading to nicknames such as the "mod pods" and the "mod squad," let us not forget the ever important title, "extremely vulnerable to tornados." It is unheard of for the modular village to be referred to as portables, and I may be crazy, but I do not see any trees in the so-called "woods."

We "sport" the plaid, we "boogie-woogie" to the sound of our "bears, bears are you ready?" cheer, and we even get into heated email arguments over the name of the future café. I often misspeak in referring to the Bear Cave; as it comes out as the Bear Lair, or Bear Necessities. The numerous bear references are fun, cute, and lighthearted, but can be tongue tying and confusing.

It seems like everything on our campus has some sort of nickname unlike that of any other school. Does this lingo affect the credibility of the school? Do the fun terms affect our image? Turn to the most recent spirit shirt for the answer: don't let the skirt fool you!

A++

"modular village"

100%

"chimes"

At the end of each grading period, students with a **3.6 grade point average** and above and who have **no grade below 70 (C-)** will be named to honor roll.

source: Harpeth Hall Handbook

**Deficiency:** *n.* the quality or condition of being deficient; incompleteness or inadequacy.

Look up **modular** and **village** in a thesaurus and get some crazy combinations:

"Hunk Borough" "The Sector Connection"  
"Detachment Center" "The Living Entity"



# Before they were faculty: Teacher's former jobs

Melissa Kim ('07)  
Staff Writer

**M**any people have secret former lives, teachers being no exception. Of course, they were not always teachers. Some were serving ice cream to hungry customers while others were making sure nobody killed herself on an amusement park ride. Whatever they were doing, these teachers have given up the goods on their past jobs.

## The Italian Job

Twenty years ago, on her quest to study the Montessori techniques, G'anne Harmon traveled to Italy where she taught elementary students in a Montessori school. Her students were not the only people learning in her classroom, as she soon discovered when she stumbled upon a few language barriers. For instance, when she wanted them to get in a line, all the kids started to make sewing movements in the air. "I had told them to 'make a thread' instead of 'get in a line,'" admitted Harmon.

## Almost Famous

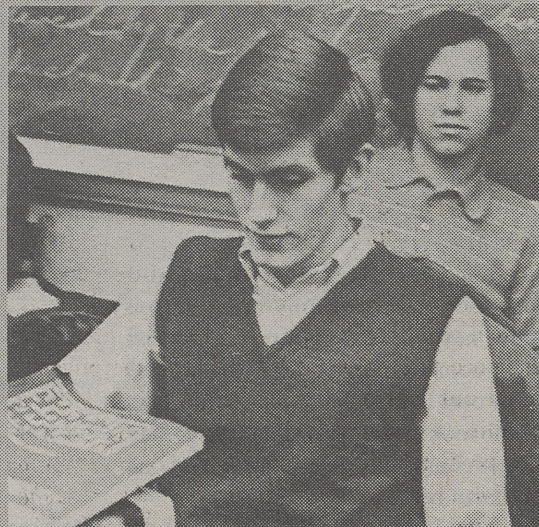
With the help of his agent, Mr. Myrick was given the opportunity to travel with his group and play music for the armed forces stationed around the world. Mr. Myrick, the manager and guitarist for his group, loved going to places in Europe, Saudi Arabia, islands in the South Pacific, and Greenland. Previously he had majored in music as an undergrad, but he declares that it was more about "the love of the art."

## Ice Cream, You Scream

For two summers when Mrs. Biegl lived in Hungary, she worked at an ice cream parlor. Although she got tons of free ice cream, there was indeed a price to pay. No, it was not the extra calories gained. A tourist proposed to her, asking her father if he could have her for ten goats. Nonetheless, the job was worth it—she made twice as much money as her mother did teaching. Her secret ice cream recipe: "espresso coffee with a scoop of vanilla is fabulous," she revealed. To recap Mrs. Biegl's ice cream parlor experience, as she put it, she was "was blonde, sixteen, and worth ten goats."

## And All That Jazz

As a student in her first year of college, Ms. Croker was in need of some serious cash. This is why she took up a job as a singing waitress at Black Bart's Steakhouse, a family restaurant in Flagstaff, Arizona. She even had to audition, and once she was hired she had to develop a ten-song repertoire. She confesses that it was hard to keep up with her orders and please the customers, managers, and cooks. Ms. Croker would sing three or four times in one night and, "I enjoyed it immensely," she said. She had to leave her beloved occupation because she transferred universities, but "I love to teach of course... I feel like I'm meant to, but it's nice to know that I have something to fall back on," she shared.



Nancy Sisk '05

Class pres Myrick before he was a rock star.

## Deep in the Heart of Texas

About nine years ago in the sweltering heat of summer in Arlington, Texas, you could have spotted Dr. Huddleston operating a parachute ride at the Six Flags Amusement Park. Part of his job was to make sure that nobody got stuck or got injured on the ride, and he admitted during his free time he would daydream since supervising the rides was not too demanding. Throughout the entire summer, Dr. Huddleston thought that it was "fascinating that so many people entrusted their lives to mostly teenagers."

## Home on the Range

For the past twelve summers Ms. Linden has been working as a farm hand, helping out with the plumbing, heating, and chicken coop maintenance. Although she did not always know the names of the tools she was asked to retrieve, she

still received free Ben and Jerry's ice cream when her employer was working in their offices. When a new tractor arrived on the farm, Ms. Linden took it out for a spin on her way to cleaning up the chicken coop. Not realizing that this tractor had a very powerful engine, she crashed into it.

## Logos Writer

When Dr. Cooper was still in graduate school at Vanderbilt University, he was the editor of the *James K. Polk Papers Project*. Every day he had to go over new documents and letters, putting a bit of time into researching as well. Although working for the newspaper slowed down his finishing his degree, he definitely enjoyed his work. By taking the position as editor, "I became a better thinker, writer, and teacher," he disclosed. He even said that there are "no regrets."

## Space Shuttle

Working the graveyard shift at a textile mill is not exactly the ideal summer job, but Dr. Echerd pulled through and spent an entire summer operating machinery and making shuttles for a textile factory. There was absolutely no sitting allowed in the factory. He quickly learned that working with machinery is monotonous, but he had to be on constant alert because there was always the chance that he could lose a finger. Needless to say, the experience makes him appreciate his job as a teacher all the more. During the breaks he would talk with his fellow workers, which gave him a different perspective on things. "Having that type of job that was different from the jobs from most of my life was a good experience," he explained. "It makes me appreciate working class people and my job today."

## Designer's Challenge

One of Mr. Croker's graphic design jobs was more of a favor for friend Vinny Santoro. He worked for three months designing a CD cover, inspired by a song called "Throw Another Bone." He collaborated with Harpeth Hall graduate Laurel Staples to create a CD cover displaying a hybrid creature with a bulldog's body and Vinny's bald head. Thanks to Mr. Croker, many people call his friend "Dog." Although he had his own limitations with color separation, he learned from his mistakes, making the project one of his favorites. He also gave some insight for those working on favors: "A labor of love is always sufficient, always, unless you are starving, but I had a day job."

# Waltzing in a winter wonderland

Candids from this year's Winter Formal

Anna Poss ('05)  
Features Editor



Kristin Leroy ('07)

A group of freshmen before their first formal. Can you say "cute"?



Leslie Toth ('04)

Seniors flash their pearly-whites before the dance.



Lizzie Napier ('05)

Briggs, Lizzie, and Raegan sporting the latest in formal wear.



Michael's Photography

Caroline breaks it down for paparazzi.



Michael's Photography

Ellen, Nancy, Abby, and Katherine smile for their last Winter Formal.



# Lord of the Box Office

Claire Berry explains the magic behind the movies

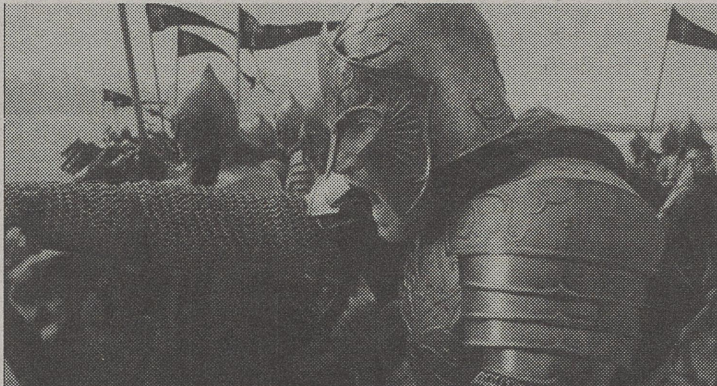
Claire Berry ('05)  
Assistant News Editor

I'm going to go ahead and say this up front. I'm not much of a fantasy enthusiast. I don't particularly enjoy reading about or watching the exploits of mythical creatures and supernaturally empowered beings. So what is it about the *Lord of the Rings* film trilogy that is so appealing, not only to me personally, but to millions of moviegoers across the country? A film that can bring in more than \$294 million in less than a month must be more than just a cult hit for people who like to dress up as hobbits.

The *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, as most people are now aware, began as a book, divided into three parts. J.R.R. Tolkien (1892 - 1973), an English scholar and professor of Anglo-Saxon at Oxford University, began writing his epic masterpiece in 1939 as a more serious sequel to one of his other well-known works, *The Hobbit* (1937). *The Lord of the Rings* was published as a set in 1954-55 to great critical acclaim. Aside from the plot and characters themselves, Tolkien also took great care in creating a painstakingly detailed and elaborate backdrop for his tale, including in his book appendixes regarding Middle-Earth's geography, long history, legends, and even languages, like elvish, for instance. Critics and scholars agree that *The Lord of the Rings* and its lore set the precedent for the fantasy genre as it is known today.

But why make movies about it? Perhaps because an epic tale should be presented on an epic scale. One reason the trilogy, and especially the latter two films, have been so successful in the box office is because they are breathtaking visual spectacles. The sweeping, beautiful landscape shots and

overwhelming, in-your-face battle scenes are more than enough reason to see *Return of the King* while it's still on the big screen. *The Lord of the Rings* is all about that kind of contrast: beauty vs. destruction. An even more powerful conflict, the classic struggle between good and evil, is an even more predominant force in the films, and collectively makes them a phenomenal, timeless piece of art.



Just one of the many incredible battle scenes in the ROTK

represents the desire for power inherent in every human being. Such power is, in itself, evil, and the films leave their audience to consider the motives of the powers-that-be in our world. Do we, as humans, have a responsibility to overcome evil? Are the horrors of war worth the possible positive result? But allow me to stop beating around the bush. Quite honestly, *The Lord of the Rings*, originally written as a reflection on World War II, can be used in comparison with any conflict, including that which currently continues in Iraq. This is precisely why the films are successful; because the audience can relate. This is also precisely why the films *should* be successful, because good films should start conversations within the mind and between individuals.

However, if a visual smorgasbord or a striking moral statement isn't enough to convince someone to see these movies, two perfectly legitimate reasons remain: Viggo Mortensen, with all his kingly graces, and Orlando Bloom, even if his ears are pointed. *Return of the King* will be gone from the big screen before you know it, so don't miss out on the final installment of this cinematic masterpiece.

In today's world of a atrocious international conflict, *The Lord of the Rings* presents a chillingly relevant message, and really gives the viewer some things to ponder. The ring itself, for instance,

## Greek to me

MBA's *The Acharnians*

Lilly Adams ('04)  
Staff Writer

*The Acharnians* was produced by Montgomery Bell Academy's theater on the weekend of December 4-7, 2003, in the Paschall Theater. Directed by Malcolm Morrison and produced by Cal Fuller, this play was nothing like any I had ever seen before. In addition to a stellar cast of MBA students, some of our own girls, including Katy Bowers, Rachel Howell, Zoe Stein, and Lauren Marcus, had parts as chorus members in *The Acharnians*.

Senior Christopher Schuller found a challenge in the role of Dikaiopolis, a character with depth atypical of high-school plays. "I'd never had to go from talking to whispering to shouting to singing to crying to laughing all in such rapid succession. There was so much more to [Dikaiopolis]," said Schuller. Unifying the chorus was another difficult task faced by members of the cast. Katy Bowers and Rachel Howell remarked that the chemistry of the chorus changed drastically from the first rehearsal to the final production.

*The Acharnians* is a play about war and its effects on uninvolved, ordinary citizens. With Dikaiopolis's guidance, the Athenians learn to look inward and question the implications of war. This was an amazing play, and if you missed it, I encourage you to read it. Without the editing, it's fresh, mesmerizing, and very funny if you can catch all the hidden meanings. "The genuine democracy and freedom of expression coupled with the liberty of comment that engendered this play are the essential elements of theater that Aristophanes inherently understood and expressed so artistically through his legacy of eleven plays," said Morrison. I do encourage each one of you to approach Katy Bowers, Lauren Marcus, Rachel Howell, Hannah Meneffee, Elle Worsham, Zoe Stein, or Katie Shaub and ask them about their experiences on and off-stage in *The Acharnians*.

If you love theatre, be sure to catch the next MBA show, *The Foreigner*, playing February 26-29, and *Rumors*, Harpeth Hall's upcoming production that will be staged on campus in March.

## A Passion for Fashion: Winter

Hillary Prim ('04)  
Staff Writer

This year, Nashville's winter has been anything but predictable. Seventy degrees one day and twenty degrees the next—it's been difficult for many to adjust their winter wardrobes accordingly. Thankfully for all Nashvillians, the season's hottest pieces have been tailor-made for situations such as this.

Now that the holiday shopping season is over and celebrities have calmed their obsessions, C & C California Tee-shirts are once again available to the masses and serve as the perfect solution for erratic weather. The tee shirts, coveted by such fashion-forward stars as Sarah Jessica Parker, were made to be layered but can be easily worn alone. Custom made in an LA garage, the tees are made of the softest, sheerest fabric imaginable and can be ordered in any color under the rainbow. The tees have just been made available at West End's Boutique Bella, but visit [www.shopbop.com](http://www.shopbop.com) for a wider selection.

Of course, the big hit of the season has been the Ugg boot. After having been featured on Oprah's "Favorite Things" show of 2003, the Australian based boots flew off the shelves of nearly every store in the United States. Both the tall and short sheepskin boots are back ordered on all Ugg carrier websites until April 2004. If you find it absolutely necessary to own the cozy footwear before then, try [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com). The site has a large selection of both new and used boots, but be careful—some bids are nearly five times higher than their \$130 retail value. If paying \$600 for a pair of shoes is not in your budget, fret not; stores such as Alloy and Delia's are carrying Ugg look-alikes for a fraction of the price.

One word can easily summarize the hottest trend of the 2003-2004 winter season: lettering. Scarves from Juicy Couture, tees from Dior, and earrings from Chanel now center themselves around their respective brand's logo. Monogramming continues its callous takeover of the fashion world with initials now adorning shirts,

pajamas, purses and even underwear. Celebrities like Madonna, who sported the letter "E" for her Kabbalah name "Esther" in 2003, made the diamond initial slide the hottest sell of the season. While months ago it was nearly impossible to find such a replica necklace for under \$300, it's now easier than ever to afford one of your very own.

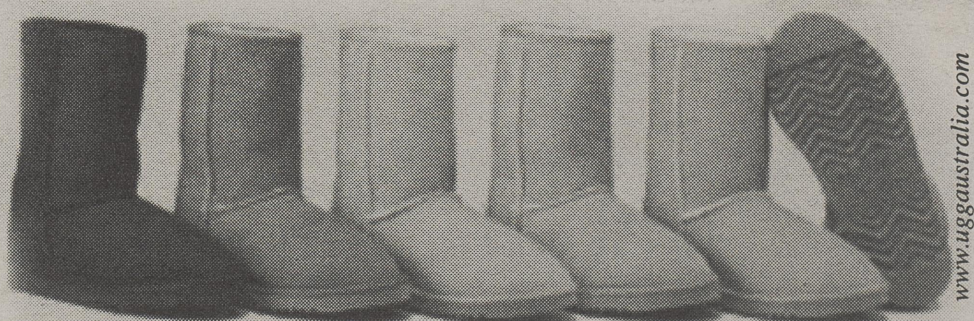
If you're looking for last minute winter buys that will last into the spring, don't be afraid to explore winter white. Not only does the color look fresh and make an immediate statement, but the pieces are appropriate for the upcoming season as well. Don't hesitate to splurge—fabrics like cashmere will bring warmth and substance to your ensemble.

As the subsequent season approaches, watch out for designer Zac Posen. His 2004 spring collection is getting rave reviews as he makes the transition from a young gown-maker-extraordinaire to a well-rounded powerhouse in fashion.

Fashion Column



[www.girlshop.com](http://www.girlshop.com)



Uggs come in several colors, including pink (that is, if you can find them!)

[www.uggaustralia.com](http://www.uggaustralia.com)



[www.girlshop.com](http://www.girlshop.com)



# SUPERBOWL SPLIT

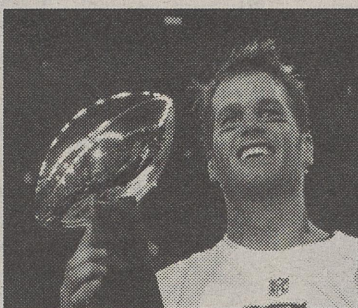
## TUNED IN SUNDAY FOR THE GAME OR THE ADS? All about the game

Emily Crowell ('05)  
Staff Writer

On the evening of February 1, 2004, amidst the humorous commercials and half-time controversy, a little football was played where the New England Patriots and the Carolina Panthers duked it out in one of the closest Super Bowl games ever. Many saw Super Bowl XXXVIII as a battle between two of the most attractive young quarterbacks in the league, Tom Brady and Jake Delhomme. Whatever your reason for watching, it was a good game.

If you were unable to see the first 27 minutes, you didn't miss much. A defensive battle consumed the majority of the first half. However, with 3:05 remaining in the first half, the Patriots finally put some points on the board with a Tom Brady touchdown pass to Branch. The Panthers quickly responded with a 95-yard touchdown drive to tie the game with 1:07 remaining in the half. New England answered with its own drive and a 5-yard touchdown pass from Brady to Givens put the Patriots up by 7. A long drive by

Carolina's Davis put the Panthers in position



Patriots QB and Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady

for a 50-yard Kasay field goal to end the half with the Patriots leading 14-10. The "entertaining" half-time show was followed by another defensive battle. Consequently, neither team scored in the third quarter. A Smith touchdown run at the beginning of the fourth quarter put the Patriots up by 11. Carolina answered with a Foster touchdown and decided to go for the two-point conversion, which was incomplete. With the score now 21-16, the Patriots' Tom Brady was intercepted in the end zone to put Carolina in position for another touchdown.

An 85-yard touchdown pass from Delhomme to Muhammad set the record for the longest pass completion in Super Bowl history. Once again Carolina opted to go for two and failed, leaving them ahead by only one point. With 2:51 remaining in the game, a Brady to Vrabel touchdown pass followed by a successful two-point conversion put the Patriots up 29-22. Carolina was able to tie the game with a Delhomme to Proehl touchdown with 1:08 remaining.

However, Carolina's lethal mistake occurred upon the kickoff to New England, as Panthers kicker Kasay kicked the ball out of bounds, giving the Patriots prime field position on their own 40 yard line. The Patriots were then able to move the ball close enough for the game-winning Vinatieri 41-yard field goal with 0:04 remaining on the clock. The Panthers desperation return was stopped short and the Patriots celebrated their 32-29 victory. After the game, New England quarterback Tom Brady was named the Super Bowl MVP for the second time in three years.

## Bring on the commercials

Madeline Martin ('05)  
Staff Writer

On Sunday night the Patriots and the Panthers battled it out in Super Bowl XXXVIII. Though it proved to be a good game, many Tennesseans were too disheartened by the Titans' loss to be excited for the Super Bowl this year. So, why did so many Harpeth Hallers watch the game? For the ads, of course! Here are summaries of some of the more memorable ads.

### Jimi Hendrix

This one is set in 1954 as an eleven-year-old Jimi Hendrix makes the life-altering decision between drinking a Pepsi-cola and a Coca-cola. He chooses the Pepsi, which is located near a guitar store. The Coca-cola had been next to an accordion store. The screen flashes, "Whew... that was a close one."

### Budweiser Clydesdale

Cited by many people as their favorite ad this year, this one features a donkey whose only goal in life is to be a Budweiser

Clydesdale horse. After years of walking practice, cart pulling, and hair extensions to his leg, the donkey goes in for his interview. The ad ends with the donkey reflecting, "I must have done something right," as he pulls the Budweiser cart alongside of the great Clydesdales of his dreams.

### Lays Potato Chips

In this commercial an older man and woman fight and tackle each other for a dropped bag of chips. The seemingly victorious grandmother ends up with the grandfather's snatched dentures, but as she gloats at her husband the grandson comes back and grabs the bag. Obviously these new crunchier chips are irresistible.

### Shards o' glass

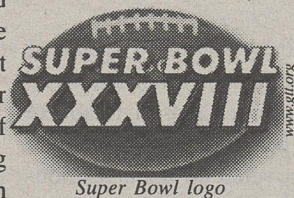
This memorable anti-smoking ad shows a man reviewing the "Shards O' Glass Popsicles" company's view on the risks of its products. The Popsicles look ridiculously painful to eat and the man offers outrageous information, such as that 1/3 of their customers die from shard related incidents. He also concludes that

there is no way to minimize the risk if you use the company's product, and says that only adults should try it. The ad ends with the thought, "What if all companies sold products like tobacco?"

### Tomorrow

One of the more amusing ads of the Super Bowl, this one featured players and coaches from teams other than the Patriots and Panthers singing the renowned Annie song "Tomorrow" in their less-than-melodious voices. At the end of their heartfelt ballad, the viewer is reminded that as of the day after the Super Bowl, all teams are undefeated.

And now, we'll have to wait until next year for another round of sidesplitting ads. Maybe in Super Bowl XXXIX the Titans will go all the way to the top, to make that stuff between the commercials a little more exciting....



## LOGOS

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Logos encourages Letters to the Editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words, and they must be signed by the writer to be considered for publication. Letters may be submitted to Opinions Editor Stephanie Compton at [scompton@harpethhall.org](mailto:scompton@harpethhall.org)

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## Instant Replay: Varsity Bowling

Melissa McCord ('05)  
Sports Editor



3rd in the Regular season  
3rd in the Regional Tournament  
Qualified for TSSAA State Tournament  
(first time ever in HH Bowling history)